

The Hongkong Telegraph

EXCHANGE:
Closing Quotations—
T.T. London 2a. 41.
Demand 2a. 4.1-164.

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.
Barometer 30.12.

March 27, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 52 2 p.m. 60 Humidity 68 50

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March 27, 1916. Temperature 6 a.m. 57 2 p.m. 60 Humidity 73 68

7621 日五月月頭酒

TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1917.

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\$36 PER ANNUM.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE GERMAN RETREAT.

British Astride the Hindenburg Line.

London, March 26.—The principal week-end developments in the West have been on the French front. The British advance has slowed down, as the country they have had to cross between Arras and Peronne has been smashed by the terrific eight months' bombardments. Nevertheless, the British are already astride the famous Hindenburg line between Cambrai and St. Quentin, as a result of the capture of Reuil and Vermand.

The French have been able to advance more rapidly, as the bombardments farther south have been less severe. Their operations on the Oise and the western border of the great wooded St. Gobain plateau, near Leun, is most promising. This is a natural stronghold, fifteen miles square, rising seven hundred feet above the Oise on the west, and the plain of Leun on the north. It was here that General Joffre intended to stand in 1915, but lack of munitions forced him to fall back to Soissons, repeating the experience of Napoleon in 1814. Since then this "wasp's nest," as a French writer describes the forest, has been the classic theme of the military schools.

The French are now threatening to turn the Hindenburg line as a result of their successes at Lt. Fere, where the line is already partially broken. They have further captured important positions south of St. Quentin, inflicting heavy losses on the Germans for the first time since the beginning of the retreat. If a further French blow carries them across the wide marshy valley of the Oise, the whole Leun salient may go, especially as the French are simultaneously and more vigorously attacking the plateau frontally from Soissons, gaining ground, despite obstinate opposition at Vergny and Margival.

Meanwhile it is noteworthy that telegrams from Petrograd emphasize that the shortening of the German front in the West is part of a plan to overwhelm Russia.

GERMAN EFFORTS TO STEM THE ALLIED ADVANCE.

London, March 26.—According to Reuter's correspondent at Paris, the Allies have apparently reached the so-called Hindenburg defensive line, of which St. Quentin is believed to be the centre, with Cambrai on the north and Leun on the south as support points.

The Allies have again confronted trenches where the fighting is intensifying, but the more vigorous German resistance has not checked the dash of the assailants, who are inflamed at the spectacle of wanton devastation.

The Germans on the whole line have had to fall back under pressure, losing heavily. The French are now close on St. Quentin and have cut the St. Quentin-Chamoy road. They have maintained and even extended their gains to the north of Soissons and on the Leun or Vregny plateau, despite two powerful counter-attacks. The numerous German effective now engaged prove the extent of the effort the enemy is making to arrest the advance.

French Maintain Their Positions.

London, March 26.—A French communiqué says:—Our fire stopped all counter-attacks.

We repulsed several fresh enemy attacks during the night on the Estuary-Somme front, between the Somme and the Oise, serious loss being inflicted on the enemy.

We entirely maintained the positions captured yesterday, and we continued to advance south of the Oise, despite the state of the ground and the bad weather.

We pushed patrols beyond Felombray, south of La Basses, and in the forest of Cocoy.

Our batteries blew up an enemy ammunition depot east of Godet farm, north of Bessin.

Five enemy aeroplanes were brought down. A French air squadron dropped a ton of bombs on factories at Thionville and in the Brie basin; and also on railway stations at Conflans and Montmedy.

ANGLO-FRENCH PROBLEMS.

Message From the French Premier.

London, March 26.—M. Ribot, in a message to the Times emphasising the need for military co-operation, says it may be necessary to create some general instrument of Allied co-operation, or somehow to revise the present excellent arrangements between the armies of Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig and General Nivelle. Though the present understanding reached at the last conference in London is working satisfactorily, and the military situation is most gratifying, it is the tremendous economic problems which need special attention. He forecasts a drastic prohibition of French imports and intensive food-growing.

A GIFT ACCEPTED.

A "Tank" from Malay States Councillor.

London, March 26.—The Army Council has gratefully accepted a gift of £6,000 made by Mr. Buong Seng, a member of the Federal Council of the Malay States, for the purchase of a "tank."—(Delayed in transmission).

FOOD ECONOMY.

A Great Campaign Begun.

London, March 26.—The Ministry of Food has arranged for a campaign for the reduction of food consumption, with a view to reducing voluntary rationing. This campaign will be directed by twelve hundred local war savings committees, and thirty-five thousand War Associations. There will be exhibition meetings, and communal kitchens. The Mayor will convene meetings and lectures. Further information follows.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

THE RUSSIAN UPHEAVAL.

Enemy's Absurd Contentions.

London, March 26.—A telegram from Rotterdam states that German experts are focussing public attention on Russia, declaring that the Revolution has upset the Entente plans of a combined offensive, as the Russian arms are unfit for active operations.

German Advance Less Feared Than Formerly.

London, March 26.—Reuter is informed from a Russian diplomatic source that the threatened German advance towards Petrograd is less to be feared now than before the Revolution. Moreover, it would have a sobering effect on the extremists. Anyhow, the Germans would encounter a series of most strongly fortified positions.

Regarding the food question, it is significant that the other day more food reached Kieff in twenty-four hours than during the whole of February.

Critical Hour Past.

London, March 26.—Reuter's correspondent at Paris says that M. Kerensky, interviewed in Petrograd, said that the situation was still serious, but he believed that the critical hour was past. A Constituent Assembly would be elected as soon as possible, but there was not time to establish female suffrage before the election. The Workmen's Committee had appointed five members to check the acts of the Government. Work had been resumed everywhere to meet the needs of national defence.

Cheery Messages from the Trenches.

London, March 26.—According to Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd, an excellent sign of the times is the arrival of most enthusiastic delegations with messages from the trenches, assuring the country that it can rely on its defenders. As an example, one regiment sent a message in which it says:—"An ineffectual end to the war would cover Russia with eternal shame. The new Russia must not be stamped with treachery. You have defeated the internal enemy; let us conquer the foreign foe."

CHINESE MINISTER IN BERLIN.

Asks for His Passports.

London, March 26.—According to Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, the Chinese Minister at Berlin has asked for passports for himself and staff.

THE LIQUOR TRADE.

State Purchase and Control.

London, March 26.—It is stated that the committee enquiring into the liquor trade has reported to the Government in favour of State purchase and control in England, Wales, and Ireland, excluding Scotland.

WAR PRISONERS.

Details of Our Captures.

London, March 26.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Hope stated that we had 55,397 German, 16 Austrian, 763 Bulgarian and 15,512 Turkish war prisoners, but undoubtedly the last-named was considerably underestimated.

THE LIFE OF PARLIAMENT.

London, March 26.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law announced that a Government Bill for again prolonging the life of Parliament would be introduced on March 27.

PATRIOTIC OVERSEAS BRITISHERS.

London, March 26.—British subjects in the Dutch East Indies have sent a subscription amounting to £3,815 to the Overseas Club, for the purpose of purchasing two aeroplanes. Overseas residents have now paid for ninety-five units of the Imperial Aircraft Flotilla formed by the Overseas Club.

RUSSIANS PURSUING THE TURKS.

London, March 26.—A Russian communiqué says:—The Russians are pursuing the Turks and have entered the vilayet of Mossul.

London, March 26.—A Russian official message says:—We occupied fortifications at Kalachashin, in the direction of Konyuk, the Turk, maintaining themselves on the heights near Miaptaga.

NATIONAL SERVICE CAMPAIGN.

London, March 26.—A great week's recruiting campaign on behalf of National Service was opened by meetings in many towns on March 24. There were appeals from all the paladin yesterday.

TELEGRAMS.

[Reuter's Service to The "Telegraph."]

AMERICA'S LATEST WAR MEASURES.

National Guard Called Up.

London, March 26.—According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, fourteen regiments of the National Guard from the various States have been called up to protect industries from domestic disorders in the event of hostilities.

President Wilson has signed an order increasing the personnel of the Navy from 62,000 to 87,000.

MORE GERMAN BARBARY.

How French Prisoners are Treated.

London, March 26.—Reuter's Paris correspondent says the President of the Association for War Prisoners has written to the Foreign Minister urging the Government to compel the Germans to abandon their barbarous treatment of French war prisoners, of which, he says, thirty thousand are ill-fed and over-crowded. Many sleep on muddy ground and are forbidden to write or to receive letters and parcels. Many are forced to work within a mile of the French lines.

THE BRITISH BLOCKADE.

Efficient in Administration.

London, March 26.—In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that the Cabinet, with naval advisers, had fully considered the whole question of the blockade, and were satisfied that the present policy was right in principle and efficient in administration. Neutral accounts from Germany seemed to confirm this view.

ARMY EXPENDITURE.

Some Striking Figures.

London, March 26.—The immense military effort being made by Britain is strikingly illustrated in the Army Appropriation Account for 1916, showing that the total net expenditure for the Army was £543,187,562. This amount includes:—Pay, £93,157,156; supplies and clothing, £217,980,815; quartering, transport and remounts, £96,873,107 of which the sea transport of troops cost £30,637,382. A sum of £5,570,320 was credited to the Indian Government for the ordinary expense of the Indian Expeditionary Forces.

ACTIVITY ON THE RUSSIAN FRONT.

London, March 26.—A Russian official wireless message states:—A German advance in the region of Postavy, following four gas waves, was thrown back. Germans dressed in white overalls attacked to the east of Baranovitchi, but were dispersed.

SERBS REVOLT AGAINST BULGARS.

London, March 26.—Serbian advices confirm the reports of a serious rising in Serbian territory against the Bulgarians, whose harshness has made life unendurable.

[In the event of telegrams arriving too late for insertion on this page they will be found on an Extra.]

LAUNCH OF THE "AUTOLYCUS."

HISTORIC EVENT AT TAIKOO DOCKS.

The Biggest Boat Ever Built in Overseas Dominions.

This morning was a gala day at Taikoo Dockyard, when the latest addition to the "Blue Funnel" fleet of Messrs. Alfred Holt & Co.—the Autolycus—was successfully launched.

The naming ceremony was performed by Lady May in the presence of large party, his Excellency Sir Henry May being present. Those also in attendance were:—Commander and Mrs. G. T. Edkins, Mr. G. K. Nuttall, Mr. K. E. Greig, Mr. J. W. Paton, Mr. and Mrs. Robt. McGregor, Capt. and Mrs. Armstrong, Mr. C. H. Blaize, Mr. and Mrs. W. D. Kraft, Mr. and Mrs. C. Montague Ede, Mr. and Mrs. P. M. Hodges, Mr. Walter Brown, Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Surman, Mr. A. Forbes, Mr. A. H. G. Jackson, Mr. and Mrs. Comrie, Mrs. Brotherton Parker, Mrs. Frank Astor, Captain and Mrs. Hopcraft, Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, Mr. and Mrs. N. L. Watson, Mr. and Mrs. W. H. Bell, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Tully, Mr. and Mrs. W. Dainger, Mr. T. A. Longfellow, Mr. and Mrs. J. A. Plummer, Mr. and Mrs. F. C. Batcher, Mr. J. H. Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Richardson, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Williams, Mr. and Mrs. J. Macdonald, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Carter, Mr. O. H. Ritter, Mr. and Mrs. S. Baker, Mr. A. H. Harris, Mr. C. Thorpe, Mr. Geo. E. Anderson, Mr. and Mrs. A. Stevenson, Mr. and Mrs. F. B. Bowley, Dr. and Mrs. Balson, Dr. and Mrs. Black, Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Dadwell, Mr. and Mrs. W. W. Dunbar, Mr. and Mrs. J. Finlay Miller, Mr. and Mrs. V. E. Eidel, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Patten, Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Douglas, Mr. A. G. Gordon, and Misses Gordon, Mr. J. E. Hough, Mrs. Dardford Wood, Mr. and Mrs. J. McCabbin, Mr. F. Graham, Mr. and Mrs. H. Hall, Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Stubb, Mr. J. W. Graham and

DON'T FORGET.

TO-DAY.—Clarke's Circus, Kowloon.—9.15 p.m. Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m. Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m. New Hongkong Cinema-gram—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.—Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m. Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m. New Hongkong Cinema-gram—9.15 p.m. Hongkong Ice Co.'s Meeting—11.30 a.m. Hongkong Fire Insurance Co.'s Meeting; noon.

Miss Graham, Mr. and Mrs. T. Neave and Miss Neave, and Mr. R. A. Nicholson, Mr. D. Gow, Mr. and Mrs. A. Denison and Miss D'anson, Mr. and Mrs. R. J. Wilson, Mr. P. H. Rolfe, Mr. and Mrs. D. McMurray, Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Jack, Mr. C. Anton and Miss Anton, Mr. B. D. F. Both, Mr. and Mrs. J. Jonckheer, Mr. J. Fawcett, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Griffin, Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Leake, Mr. and Mrs. A. E. Lowe, Mr. T. Hayashi, Mr. B. Mori, Mr. A. G. Crippin, Mr. J. F. van Ree, Mr. and Mrs. R. C. Morton, Mr. and Mrs. J. O. Sheppard, Mr. H. Percy Smith, Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Mr. and Mrs. Falconer, Hon. Mr. and Mrs. P. H. Holyoak, Mr. and Mrs. A. S. D. Constand, Mr. and Mrs. G. H. Gale, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Stosman, Dr. and Mrs. Stedman, Mr. and Mrs. G. J. Hartman, Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Leesle, Mr. and Mrs. E. A. Bam, Mr. J. E. Thompson and Mr. and Mrs. Baxter.

The new vessel has the distinction of being the largest vessel ever turned out in the Colony of Hongkong and up to date the largest yet launched from the British Dominions. The principal dimensions of the vessel are: length overall 441 ft. 8 inches, breadth overall 52 ft. 4 inches, and 33 feet depth to upper deck from bottom of keel, the total gross tonnage being 6,000, and deadweight carrying capacity will be about 8,200 tons. The form of the hull has been designed to give the most economical vessel with the power installed, having straight waterlines forward and an easy run aft, the full midship section run aft, giving a very fine entrance. The vessel has two complete decks with an orlop deck forward, poop, bridge and forecastle and citadel deckhouse at fore end of bridge, two pole masts and ten derrick poles, also six cargo hatches.

The scantlings of the vessel have been designed to the owners' requirements and are also in accordance with the British Corporation rules for classification of vessels and for freeboard certificate. An interesting fact, which shows the far-sightedness of the owners, is that although the Merchant Shipping Convention Act has not yet been put into operation, this vessel complies with a great number of the requirements of the Act, such as an emergency plant for wireless, pumping and lighting installed on the weather deck in addition to the general plant for same in the engine room. There are also large fixed openings in the bulkheads, and all watertight doors are operated from the weather deck. Ten lifeboats are carried under davits and everything in this respect is to the very latest requirements as regards construction and fittings. The sub-division of the holds and the stiffening of the bulkheads are all specially considered in view of future legislation. The vessel has a straight stem, elliptical stern, and cellular double bottom all fore and aft, the wings of which have been carried well up the sides of the vessel. There are eight cylindrical bulkheads carried to the upper deck, giving the vessel a strength and safety which is unprecedented.

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The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1917.

THE GOVERNMENT AND COMMERCE.

In his speech to the members of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce last evening, the Hon. Mr. Holyoak gave an account of his stewardship, as the Chamber's representative on the Legislative Council, which certainly revealed him as the right man in the right place. Since his nomination to a seat on the Council, Mr. Holyoak has shown by his utterances that he is not prepared to remain a mere figure-head on the governing body of the Colony. He realises that he has been elected for the express purpose of seeing that justice is done to Hongkong's immense commercial interests in any considered demands which may be put forward on its behalf. Those interests may truthfully be said to keep the Colony alive, for it is its huge trade which has made Hongkong the great and flourishing shipping and commercial centre that it is to-day. No member of the Legislative Council, therefore, has a more responsible or onerous post to fill than the selected representative of the Chamber of Commerce, whose views, when they are backed by the Chamber, merit the utmost consideration from those who constitute the official element of the Council.

In the early days of the Colony's history, it was not an infrequent occurrence for the official and the mercantile elements to come into sharp conflict; indeed, at one time there was a distinct danger that the latter might triumph over the former. Much water has passed under the bridge since that time, and though there are still most important military and naval considerations which everyone realises should be immune from civilian influence, the fact remains that the business men of the Colony have not received that measure of support from official quarters which, by reason of the immensity of their interests, they are fully entitled to expect. The commerce of the Colony has made astounding strides during the past twenty or thirty years, but this has been in spite of, rather than because of, the general attitude of officials to its just merits. So far as individual officials are concerned, we do not suggest that there is a distinct "set" against our men of commerce. We are quite ready to accept the well-expressed tribute paid by Mr. Holyoak to the assistance readily given him by the Colony's senior officials, from His Excellency the Governor downward. But even the most ardent supporter of the Government will be willing to admit that, when it comes to dealing with essentially business matters, men who have spent their lives in commerce are infinitely more fitted to express an opinion on legislation affecting the trade of the Colony than any official servant can ever hope to be. The complaint lies rather with the existing government machinery than with individuals—a machinery which, as Mr. Holyoak pointedly showed, enables the official majority in the Legislative Council to veto the considered and determined opinion of the Colony's business community. That community, as the Chamber representative aptly claimed, is composed of men who, after all, are the experts in all questions of trade and its connections; and they rightly resent the perpetuation of a procedure which results in their opinions being waived aside "by an official majority which often does not understand the questions at all." That, in a nut-shell, is the kick which the business men of the Colony have against the existing method of government in Hongkong to-day.

But it is one thing to complain of hampering circumstances, and another to take steps to remedy the situation. What we should like to feel, therefore, is that the views expressed by Mr. Holyoak are not to end in mere talk. The feeling in favour of a larger measure of representative government has still exists, despite the lethargy shown by those who should be prominently identifying themselves with the movement. The Chamber of Commerce knows, from its experience over the trade mark question, the evils of the present system. And we can only trust that it will take some definite steps whereby the view on the needed reform of the Colony's governing body will be made known to the authorities at Home in time to be dealt with when your own questions affecting the Crown Colonies come up for consideration.

Hongkong and the Man.

One essential feature of the Chamber of Commerce meeting is dealt with in to-day's leader; but there is another which calls for remark: the determined attitude of two local taipans in regard to the Germans and their possible future relations with this colony. From the Chair, Mr. Edkins made it quite clear that the merchants will stand no nonsense over the enemy trade-mark business; that the property of an enemy like the Hun is not going to be "cured for his benefit after the war," and that the Chamber here is at one with similar bodies elsewhere in wanting to see His Majesty's Government adhere relentlessly to the ton-for-ton principle. From the applause which appears to have greeted the Chairman's observations we may surely take it that the other commercial men of Hongkong are as ready as he to bear a part in enforcing these wholesome measures. The time has gone by for sentiments of the "pretty pretty" order. The Germans have had their chance. They were allowed to settle in this colony just as they pleased, and to go dangerously near to monopolising its trade—and we all know how they have shown their gratitude for British hospitality. Making Hongkong a sort of headquarters, they deliberately set to work to repel where our own people had sown, and to squeeze the British and French trader out of China so far as he was possible. It was British and French soldiers and sailors that bore the main share in opening the Chinese ports to foreign trade—long before Germany had attempted to become a maritime nation; but the wily Hun got the nuts out of the fire without burning his own fingers and calmly laid himself out to exploit China. We will not pretend that any foreign hands are clean altogether with respect to that hapless country; but, if the Chinese ever come to form a low opinion of the white man's commercial and personal morality, it will be mainly due to the conduct of the Germans in Hongkong and the Treaty Ports during the past thirty years. We have had our lesson; for Heaven's sake let us profit by it to the full.

A Legacy of Hatred.

And then there is the more human and personal side of our relations with Germany. We left bonnet to Mr. Holyoak for his remark: "I hope and believe that there is a legacy of hatred left in the mind of every British citizen." There has been far too much drawing-room and bible-class talk in the past, sneer the blackguards who have broken every law in creation, and it was high time that we imported a little straight masculinity into our ideas and conversation. In the early days of the war we could afford to laugh riotously at the "God punishes England" and "Hymn of Hate" business, for it was foreign to our national temperament to cherish hate or to harbour thoughts of vengeance. The Britisher can hit, but the very hand that knocks down an enemy is ready, as a rule, to pick him up again, to brush the dust off his clothing, and to procure him a drink. But Germany has altered all this for us; she has taught us that there is a limit to forgiveness, and that our ancestors, Celts and Teutonic, were far more logical than we are in declining to allow outrage to go unpunished. We do right to hate the Hun—because he has stolen the lives of our brothers. Had these been killed in a fair fight, matter would have been otherwise. Our great-grandfathers were slain by Frenchmen, and our grandfathers by Russians; but we can bear no ill will towards the slayers or their descendants. With the German, however, it is another story, and we hope to see an heirloom of righteous hatred handed on from parent to child, so that a place can no longer be found in any Autocratic country for members of a race that has made itself despised in the sight of God and man. To avert the barest suspicion of friendship or sympathy towards a German is to condone the vile offence against civilisation which he and his have committed. Let him remain what he has made of himself—a pariah.

DAY BY DAY.

MANY A MAN WHO HAS BEEN SENSIBLE ALL HIS LIFE LETS A FOOL MAKE A FOOL OF HIM.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand to-day was 2s. 4d./16d.

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the 6th anniversary of the death of General Abercromby.

College Sports.
The Ying Wa College sports are taking place on the Race-course to-morrow, commencing at 1 p.m. Mrs. Gibson has kindly consented to present the prizes at 6 o'clock.

Consul's Death.

We regret to hear of the death of Senor Anibal Puccio, Consul General for Peru, which occurred last night at the King Edward Hotel. The funeral, which takes place to-day, will leave King Edward at 5 p.m.

Dock Company Meeting.

At the meeting of shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company this morning, the Chairman gave an interesting review of the Compny's formation and expansion. Our report is unavoidably held over, and will appear on an Extra.

The Colony's Health.

Last week there were notified three fatal cases of small-pox, two fatal occurrences of diphtheria, two non-fatal cases of scarlet fever and two cases of enteric fever (one fatal). All the sufferers were Chinese excepting the scarlet fever patient, who was a Britisher.

C. E. M. S.

D. Earle, of the University, is to address a meeting of the Church of England Men's Society to-morrow (Wednesday) at 9 p.m. in St. Paul's College, on "Anglo-Catholicism" with a view to defining the position of the Anglican Church and its relation to other Christian Churches and bodies.

Missing Thieves.

When a Chinaman was charged before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, with stealing a quantity of material from the China Sugar Refinery, Inspector Sim said that an old Indian watchman saw the defendant and two others coming from the store. He blew his whistle and Mr. Baker came out and saw the defendant. They had not been able to get the others, who ran on to a launch. The case was adjourned.

Successful Salvage.

We learn that the s.s. Licorne, which turned turtle some while ago on the Wuchow second bar, has been successfully floated again, and was towed into Canton yesterday. The salvage work was carried out by a Chinese crew. The salving of the s.s. Kwangtai, which was recently sunk at the entrance to the Shihming Gorge, is proceeding very satisfactorily. The men are working night and day and it is believed that the vessel will soon be afloat again.

False Pretences.

The story of how a Chinese attempted to obtain goods by false pretences was told before Mr. O. D. Melbourne at the Police Court to-day. It appears that the man went into a butcher's shop and said he was a servant of a man known to be a customer of the shop. The shopkeeper, however, had his suspicions, and sent a foki with the man. After proceeding for a short distance, the man tried to evade the foki, but was arrested. Sentence of six weeks' hard labour was passed.

Property Sale.

An important sale of property took place at Mr. G. P. Lammer's saleroom yesterday afternoon, when, under an order of the Supreme Court made in the action between the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd., plaintiffs, and Yu Foo and others, defendants, two lots were put up. Both were purchased by the Humphreys Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.—Marine Lot No. 288, section A of Marine Lot No. 257, for \$240,000; and the remaining portion of Marine Lot No. 287 and Section A of Marine Lot No. 285, for \$120,000. Messrs. Douglas, Lockett, Deacon and Harrison were the solicitors concerned.

INTERESTING WAR LECTURE.

The Political Backgrounds of the Struggle.

The large attendance which assembled at the City Hall last evening, to hear Professor McElroy's lecture on "The Political Backgrounds of the War" thoroughly enjoyed a discourse which was altogether illuminating and decidedly topical.

The lecture was arranged by the Odd Volumes Society, and, in the unavoidable absence of the Chief Justice, the chair was taken by the Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.

In introducing the lecturer, the Chairman spoke of his qualifications to deal with the subject, and said that Professor McElroy had spent a considerable number of his summer vacations in Europe, and had had an opportunity of going over a great deal of the ground in regard to which this big war was now raging. He had also been a student at Berlin and Leipzig, and also at the University of Oxford. Therefore he was able to speak of this subject of the war from inside knowledge of both German and Great Britain.

Professor McElroy prefaced his lecture proper with a reference to America, saying he believed that after months of impatient waiting they had reached the point where the American people could be counted upon as a united people. Proceeding, he said they were not primarily interested today in the question of who struck the first blow or who mobilised first; but they knew that no one could have mobilised before Germany, because she had been mobilised for fifteen years. He dwelt on the advance in American commerce owing to the war, and other results, and claimed that the problems of the war were more advanced than mere problems of gain. The real issue was that of self-government and the rights of small nations to exist throughout the world. The British Prime Minister, in his message to America, said that liberty was the issue, and could be preserved only by victory. Peace without liberty was not according to the belief at least of the British Prime Minister, and there had never been a tradition of the American people to place much faith in peace without victory. It would be disastrous to the friends of liberty if the Allies gave up this struggle before victory was complete and beyond any question of doubt.

(Applause). Great results must have great causes, and any one who attempted to give a simple explanation of the causes of this war was giving an explanation which was false. It reached back almost to antiquity. There was Russia's age-long ambition for an outlet into the warm Mediterranean; there was England's pride in her Admiralty; there was France's desire for revenge for 1871; there were the ancient racial complications which made men say of Austria that she was not an empire but a mistake. These and a hundred others must be reckoned with when the day comes for the historian to speak as an historian of the present war. He must be far away from the incidents in order to avoid personal deflection. He must not judge the cause until he could see the result. In this connection the lecturer pointed to the careful looking up of their records of the past century by all the nations, to be released at the proper time. It was perfectly evident that these documents that were flooding the world now were every one of them prepared with the object of making a certain definite impression upon public opinion, which had come to be realised as the ruling power of the world and they knew that in all probability every one of these documents would be found to contain as many missing links as Darwin's theory of evolution. He could not therefore pretend to speak as an historian, but neither could he speak as a blind partisan. That the men now sacrificing their lives upon the battlefield, of whatever nationality, were sincere in their faith in the cause for which they fought, he had no doubt;

but the soldier's conception of the thing was coloured by the soldier's training, and the soldier's training was the soldier's religion.

The lecturer then analysed the doctrines of Nietzsche and Treitschke, and stated that whatever the result of the war, Teuton Germany would gain more from it in the long run than any other nation, for through the rights of man were reared to place hand on sword whenever differences arose. England and America taught their sons to think first of peaceful means, hence their century of peace and that magnificent line of frontier between Canada and the United States, unmarred by a single frowning bastion.

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RIFLE CHAMPIONSHIP MEETING.

Further Entries for the Competition.

In connection with the rifle shoot for His Excellency the Governor's Cup, which takes place on Saturday, April 7, the following further entries have been sent in:—Sergeant Manuk H.K.V.C.; Cpl. Grimes, R.E.; Cpl. Russell, R.E.; Sergeant Bradbury, H.K.V.C.

The Hon. Mr. E. H. Sharp, K.C., has presented a cup for the third best shot.

Captain G. G. Wood, H. K. V. C. will officiate as range officer. Captain Preston, H. K. V. C. will be in charge at the butts, and Chief Inspector Chiuchen will do the quadding.

Entries close on Friday, March 30.

Ship's Engineer's Loss.
Mr. E. Petersen, a ship's engineer, reports to the Police that a gold watch and chain and \$80 (gold) has been stolen from his cabin, the total value being \$120.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Count Plunkett is the first member the Sinn Feiners have elected to Parliament, but this is not quite their fault, says the *Manchester Guardian*. As far back as 1908, when, for all the average Englishman knew of it, Sinn Fein might have stood for the watchword of the Chinese Boxers, they had an election about it in North Leitrim, and Mr. Dolan, who had resigned a very comfortable seat in order to gratify his curiosity, was beaten by a handsome majority when he proposed to represent North Leitrim in future, by staying at home. It is not easy to deduce it from the canon itself (Sinn Fein, of course, simply means "Ourselves alone") but it has always been one of the subsidiary articles of the faith that after going through the elaborate procedure of election, and incidentally after observing and obeying many British statutes made in that behalf, a Sinn Fein member must show his contempt for them by giving them the cold shoulder.

Meanwhile Count Plunkett's return raises practical questions which in the not-impossible event of more Sinn Fein successes will have to be faced by Parliament. A member who takes his seat in the House without taking the oath is liable to heavy penalties, but, seemingly, no provision has been made for the case of the man who refuses both oath and seat, and no vacancy in the representation of the constituency arises in such circumstances. Baron Lionel Nathan de Rothschild, a duly elected member for the City of London, who before the form was altered, not unadvisedly refused to swear "on the true faith of a Christian," sat in the House for years, below the bar, without taking the oath, and though he had not "taken his seat," which must be above the bar, the House so far recognised his membership as to make him a member of a Committee on a subject in which he was specially interested: Sir Erskine May lays it down that although a member may not sit and vote until he has taken the oath, he is entitled to all the other privileges of membership. This was written before M.P.'s were paid a salary, but it seems to cover this as well. Fortunately for the taxpayer, the Sinn Feiners object to Parliamentary salaries as much as to service, and Count Plunkett is not likely to claim the privileges.

The American navy has a knack of springing new inventions on the enemy, as we discovered to our cost when last we fought it, observes the *Manchester Guardian*. The Times of October 5, 1813, reports an attempt "made by the Americans to destroy the Plantagenet, in Lynnhaven Bay, by the explosion of a combustible machine called a torpedo." It is a case containing about six barrels of gunpowder, to which a lock is affixed, and attached to the lock is a line reaching to the person that has the execution of the design. It is next suspended by a stage of planks, at each end of which are about 50 fathoms of small line, with a buoy at each end. The machine has many chances of success in close anchorages; the buoys, being extended a hundred fathoms will most probably convey the line across the cable of any ship at anchor, and the person using it, finding that it has been stopped, pulls the trigger of the lock and the explosion takes place.

The lecturer then analysed the doctrines of Nietzsche and Treitschke, and stated that whatever the result of the war, Teuton Germany would gain more from it in the long run than any other nation, for through the rights of man were reared to place hand on sword whenever differences arose. England and America had given self-government to their colonies when the latter showed themselves fit, and Japan must shortly come to a decision regarding Korea. England respected the absolute right of a nation to develop as a nation. He believed that the American nation was ready to meet in its lot with the British Empire and the others who stood to-day for the best things in the history of the world. (Applause.)

Journalistic Change.
The Glasgow Herald announces that Mr. F. Hartcock, Kilburn, has resigned the editorial department, and for the time being, Mr. Robert Scott, of the same office, will be in charge.

LAUNCH OF THE
"AUTOLYCUS."

(Continued from Page 1.)

The space under the forecastle has been fitted up for emigrants, with the usual beds, etc., while the space under the poop has been fitted up for sailors and firemen; a particularly modern feature being the arrangement of the rooms for the sailors (two men to each room) in place of one large room for all the sailors), a separate mess room being arranged for firemen and for cossens. The space under the bridge deck is utilized for cargo and coals. Petty officers' rooms are on the bridge deck alongside the engine casing. In the citadel house at the fore end of the bridge deck, the saloon, engineers' and officers' rooms have been arranged, each fitted up with all the requisite items that go to make comfortable rooms. On the deck over the saloon is a steel house containing the Captain's day and night cabin, also two passenger staterooms. Over this house again is the navigating bridge with wheel house and chart room. Special mention might be made of the heating arrangement of the ship, patent hot-water heaters being fitted in four separate installations to heat all the living and mess rooms throughout the ship. The ventilation has also had special attention, electric fans, venetian doors, torpedo vents and large scuttles being fitted to the rooms.

The vessel is supplied with seventeen steam winches with derricks carrying loads varying from 2 tons to 40 tons, which ensures rapid handling of cargo. Fire extinguishing pipes are fitted to all cargo holds. There is a quick-warping steam windlass on the forecastle for handling the anchors and warping the vessel. The steam steering gear engine is placed at the after end of the engine casing and is controlled from the navigating bridge. A powerful Marconi wireless apparatus is installed, with suitable rooms for the operators.

The machinery consists of one set of triple-expansion, surface-condensing engines having cylinders 26 inches, 44 inches and 75 inches diameter, with a stroke of 54 inches, and is of the most modern design, having "Unidur" type condenser, which assures a good vacuum being easily maintained with the minimum of weight. Edward's patent air pump has also been fitted and a separate centrifugal circulating pump of the latest type.

The auxiliary machinery in the engine room comprises Weir's feed pump, general service and fresh water pumps, 35-ton evaporator and one large auxiliary condenser of the "Uniflow" type complete with suitable circulating pump, capable of dealing with all exhaust steam while the vessel is in port. Steam is supplied to the main engines from two large double-ended boilers; one single-ended auxiliary boiler is also provided, and all the boilers have a working pressure of 200 lbs.

Electric light plant consists of two direct-coupled engines and dynamo, each capable of lighting the whole ship, Sun Gas projector, and cargo lights. The emergency plant on the weather deck comprises an oil engine coupled direct to the generator. A Bee's ro-turbo pump with watertight enclosed motor is fitted for the emergency pumping arrangement.

In the stokehold a See's patent ash ejector will be fitted, also a large independent duplex pump for working same; in addition to this a steam ash hoist will also be fitted for heaving ashes up to deck. When completed and on service, the vessel will attain a speed of 13 knots.

The Launching.

The launching ceremony went through without a hitch, the craft taking the water beautifully.

When christening the vessel in the customary manner, Lady May said:—"Good luck; and God bless you."

Miss Margaret Reid presented Lady May with a beautiful bouquet of roses in a handsome silver flower stand.

The Speeches.

Subsequently the company adjourned to a workshop which had

been decorated for the occasion, and here speeches were delivered. Mr. Edkins said:—"Your Excellency, ladies and gentlemen, I desire, on behalf of Messrs. Alfred Holt and Co., and of the Taikoo Dockyard, to express the pleasure we have in welcoming you here to-day for the launching of the Autolycus, also our keen appreciation of the presence of H. E. the Governor and of the honour Lady May has accorded us by coming to christen and launch the boat. This she has charmingly and successfully accomplished, and we wish to express to her our thanks. Before asking you to join me in good wishes for the future of the vessel, I will mention a few points connected with her construction. Hongkong has long had an excellent record for its shipbuilding work, and this present occasion now marks a step forward in the industry, for the ship just launched stands for Hongkong's entry into the shipbuilding world for the construction of large ocean-going liners. All connected with Taikoo Dockyard are proud to have been entrusted by such leading and experienced shipowners as Messrs. Alfred Holt and Co. with the construction of one of their highly-clawed modern vessels, and also to possess their further confidence, based on work already done, as to be already entrusted with a sister ship for that firm. I hope that as you leave this workshop you will already see progress started with this second vessel on the building berth just vacated by the Autolycus. The Autolycus is the largest ocean-going steamer so far constructed in the British Dominions overseas, although vessels of similar size are now building in Canada.

The factor in the outturn of these large vessels, besides the possession of the necessary mechanical plant, is the supply of the skilled labour required more particularly for the existing work entailed in the heavy plating and rivetting. We have it however on the authority of qualified experts that work done in previous heavy repair jobs and in the construction of this particular ship responds to every requirement and is a credit to the capacity of the Chinese workmen and their supervisors. In general finish also we have every confidence that their work will bear comparison with the best at home. We hope and believe that these large vessels are only the forerunners of more and larger vessels still to be turned out by local shipyards. I wish to express our appreciation of the great assistance extended to the builders by the owners in placing the result of their experience at our disposal, and on behalf of the dockyard staff generally their indebtedness for the co-operation of Messrs. Alfred Holt's superintendents and staff. I have the pleasure to ask you to join me in best wishes to the good ship Autolycus for a successful career with continued prosperity to her owners.

The toast was heartily drunk. Mr. Reid, Manager of the Docks, said:—"I have to thank Lady May for her attendance and assistance in carrying out the interesting ceremony. I always consider it a wonderful good luck to have Lady May present at functions such as this. At the same time, I desire to present her with a circle of diamonds as a memento of the occasion.

His Excellency the Governor replied as follows:—Lady May can make quite as good a speech, on her own account, as I can; but she dislikes public speaking so much that she has asked me to return thanks for her. I, equally, dislike public speaking, but as my indebtedness to Lady May is greater than has been my ability to pay up to the present time, I am quite glad to have this opportunity of making a small sacrifice "on account". So on her behalf I wish to thank, first of all, the little damsel who presented to her the beautiful bouquet on behalf of the Quarry Bay children, and also the Quarry Bay children for their kind thought. Next I have to thank Mr. Reid for proposing Lady May's health. And lastly I have to thank the management for doing Lady May the honour of having invited her to launch the fine vessel, which has just taken the water, and also for presenting her with such a handsome memento of his

DAIRY FARM NEWS.

CORNED BEEF

AND

CORNED PORK.

PUT UP IN KEGS

and BARRELS

FOR

EXPORT OR STEAMERS' USE.

TRAMWAY RETURNS.

TO-DAY'S ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

The following is the approximate statement of the Hongkong Tramway Company's traffic receipts for the week ending March 24, 1917:

Receipts for week.	Aggregate Receipts for 12 weeks.
This Year: ... \$12,618	\$163,761
Last Year: ... 11,503	149,883
Increase: ... 1,115	13,878
Decrease: ... —	—

Returned.
Mr. P. C. Potts returned by the Shinyo Maru to-day.

Engaged Sentenced.

At the Police Court this morning, George Anderson, third engineer of the s.s. Hupeh, was sentenced to three months' hard labour for stealing a sum of money belonging to the second engineer of the same ship.

Jumped into the Harbour.
When a cook-boy on board the s.s. San Ning was charged before Commander G. W. Beckwith, at the Marine Court to-day, with preventing the seizure or discovery of a parcel, it was stated that the man was being searched at the wharf when he suddenly dashed off and jumped into the harbour. He was seen by the revenue officer to undo his belt and take a packet from it and allow the packet to sink. The man then climbed on to a sampan and was arrested. Inspector Wildin spoke to the man being brought to the office dripping wet, and although he at first said that it was only salt that he threw away, he later said it was opium. His Worship fined the man \$20, or one month's hard labour.

Cargo remaining undelivered on the 29th March, at 5 P.M., will be landed at consignees' risk and expense, and delivery must then be taken from the Company's Godown. Storage charges will be assessed on all cargo remaining undelivered on the 2nd April, at 5 P.M.

No Fire Insurance whatever will be effected.

No Claims will be recognised after the goods have left the Steamer or Godown.

All chased and damaged cargo will be landed into the Company's Godown, where they will be examined on the 3rd April at 10 A.M.

No Claims will be recognised if filed after the 17th April, 1917.

T. DAIGO,

Agent.

Hongkong, 27th March, 1917.

Summit

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SHAPE 69

A Soft Pique collar with a fairly heavy rib.

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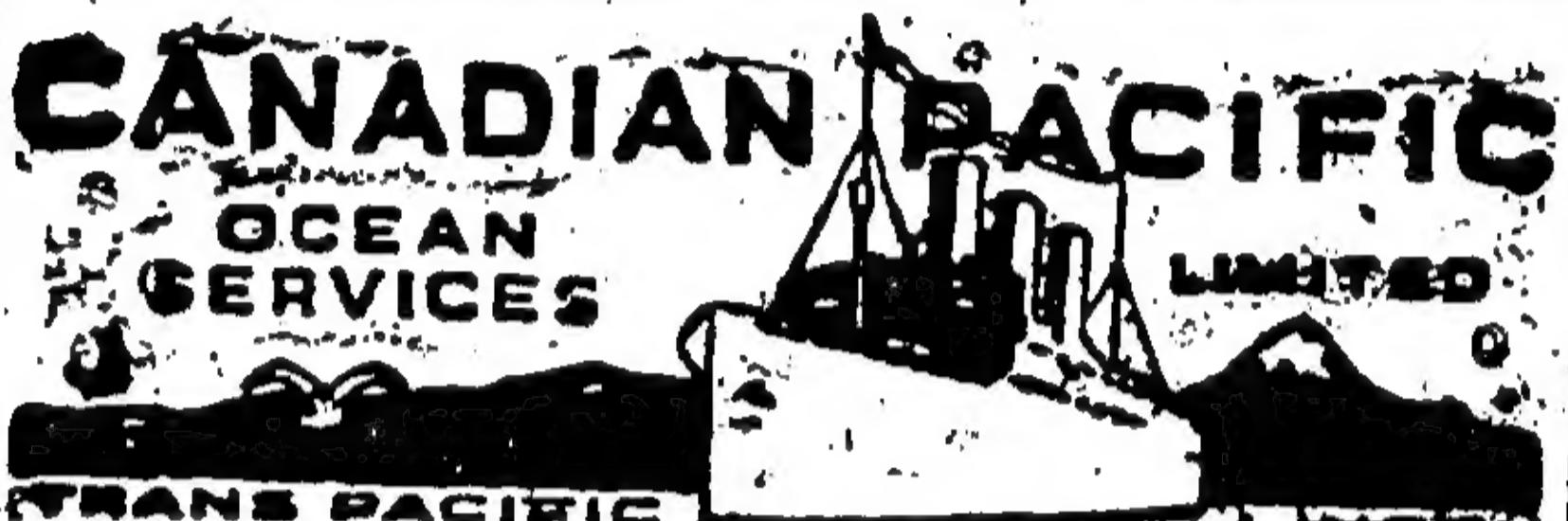
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Destination.	Steamers.	Sailing Date
LDON via Singapore, Malacca, Penang, Colombo, Port Said and Marseilles	Shidzuoka Maru	WED., 28th
SHANGHAI, Moji and Kobe	Capt. Nom. T. 12,500	MAR. at noon.
SHANGHAI, Moji, Kobe and Yokohama	SAWA Maru	TUES. 1st
LONDON via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Port Said and Marseilles	Capt. Hayashi T. 12,500	MAY. at noon.
VICTORIA, B.C., and SEATTLE via Shanghai, Moji, Kobe, Nagoya & Yokohama		
GUUTTA via Spore, Fang & Rangoon, BOMBAY via Spore, Malacca & C'bo.		
SHANGHAI Moji	Bombay Maru	WED., 28th
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Capt. Shimohara T. 8,000	MAR. at 8 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	Jinsen Maru	FRIDAY,
KAIKO Maru	Capt. Takahashi T. 8,000	SATUR.
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama	Kaga Maru	THURS. 12th
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama	Aki Maru	FRI. 13th
	Capt. Yoshikawa T. 12,500	APR. at 10 a.m.

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Steamer.	Displacement	Leave Hongkong
Nippon Maru	Tons & Speed	
Shimyo Maru	11,000 - 15 knots	28th Mar. at noon.
Persia Maru	22,000 - 21 knots	2nd Apr.
Korea Maru	9,000 - 14 knots	16th Apr.
Siberia Maru	18,000 - 18 knots	28th Apr.
Tenyu Maru	18,000 - 18 knots	12th May.
	1st class to London G\$348 (£71.10.0), return G\$670 (£132).	23rd May.
	2nd class to San Francisco G\$250.	

*For this voyage the Persia Maru will call at Honolulu. Special Rates given to NAVAL & MILITARY, CIVIL SERVANTS, MISSIONARIES etc.

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Steamer.	Tons & Speed	Leave Hongkong
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OUR HEROES' GRAVES.

Where the Poppies Grow in France.

There is, perhaps, nothing in all France which speaks more for the ever present human element in the British soldier and in us, as a people than the numerous, well-appointed, well-tended graveyards which lie close up to the line, and in which friend and foe sleep their last sleep together. No difference marks the grave of the Hun who has fallen in our lines; the chalk border, the tastefully curved and inscribed cross, the flowers, the poppies are the same.

The little village on the hill behind the line is battered and crumpled until nothing but a tangled heap of ruins is left. Amid the chaos the river flows silently and surely, and on its bank stands, between it and the village, the little British graveyard, with its daily increasing burden and its clumps of poppies. Here is indeed a garden of honour, for honour lies there, and willing, honourable hands have made it, and there's record will always be found and kept of a nation that cares for and loves her sons in death as in life. To battle they went freely, and in this garden of French soil they lie at rest, their blood reflected in new life forms in the poppies. The flower may shed its blossoms as these lads have shed their blood; but the spring time will come again for both.

A year ago this little garden was not there, beside the stream. One beautiful autumn morning a small carrying party to the line was caught in the village on the hill; there was the scream of a shell, a crash, a groan, and willing British hands carried down that village street and towards the river, the lifeless bodies of two of Britain's sons. Thus—and there, out of destruction, sprang the graveyard and the poppies. Two carved crosses mark their resting place; the kindly hands that laid the bodies there, stealing from time to time a moment from their leisure hours, did honour to the graves. Round the mounds are neatly built little walls of chalk, on the graves are gently placed some token of respect. And nature brought her poppies.

Dame Fortune and Fickle Fate daily began to bring their store. Death brought the fallen Briton and the German raider, and side by side they lie. The Hun sleeps there and on the little cross, that marks his allotted space, there hangs his helmet, embellished with a Golden Eagle.

Thousands have passed, thousands have gazed, and often a burying party has been scattered by the rush, the scream, the tearing burst of a German shell. But the Helmet, the Golden Eagle, still hangs there, the living testimony of the honour, the justice, the goodwill, we and our soldiers have never lost. Many British homes will find a loved one there, and German homes will find a son whose enemies honour him in death, and kept for posterity a record of his name.

For the German who falls among his own kind another fate is reserved. His soul may live, but his body, once useful to his country or now, in death, no more than flesh and bone, and so with thousands of others it is flung into a blast furnace, the crematorium of Kultur; where no record is kept and no cross marks a soldier's resting place.

The British soldier in the field, is still the embodiment of the complete soldier and above all the complete gentleman. War, in all its agonies, has never been able to crush what we may call his softer side; and we find at all times and at the most unexpected junctures those innate feelings of tenderness, sympathy, kindness, self-denial and justice, bubbling forth from the well-spring of his birthright.

So it is we find the treacherous cry of "Kamerad" repeated on the battlefield; so it is the Boche prisoner thinks from the British Tommy's waterbottle; so it is we cannot bear to see their wounded in pain, and so it is we find the little graveyards and the poppies. We have never tarnished our own name, and in France no more grown, tarnished name lies hidden on those little wooden crosses, than that of the world over.

MAGIC OF BRITAIN'S NEW ARMIES.

The Story of a Great National Triumph.

When the history of the war comes to be written, one of the features that will stand out will be the marvellous way in which, within a few months, the small Expeditionary Force was expanded into a mighty army of trained soldiers equal to the forces arrayed against them.

One of the most serious problems to be faced was the provision of officers and non-commissioned officers to train the fresh levies. As almost every man fitted to train recruits had to leave for the front there was hardly even a nucleus of experts to train the new armies.

How great the dearth was may be imagined from the fact that at least one officer is required for 40 men, and that before the war barely 300,000 men were fully officered, and that the Army was increased by that amount within little more than a month from August 4, 1914.

Various expedients were adopted to meet this dearth. For the senior commands in the new service units a nucleus of Regular officers, left at the depots when the Expeditionary Force went overseas, proved of the utmost use. Some 200 officers of the Indian Army, home on leave, were retained for training purposes.

Retired officers ("dog-outs," as they were popularly called) flock back to their old profession of arms as soon as they saw the country might need them, and they were given important duties in training recruits.

Many of them proved to be excellent officers in every respect, both at home and at the front. But this was not the case with all. Some were too old, or otherwise physically unfit even at home, where long hours and strenuous exertion were almost as much needed as at the front.

For example, the second in command of one battalion was discovered to be 55 years old, had to use a chair to mount his horse, and was physically unfit to ride any distance or to reconnoitre. But this officer was nevertheless as keen as any, and did good work in training his men; though he was not up to leading them at the front.

Another great difficulty was the provision of junior officers. At this juncture the wisdom of Lord Haldane in providing a method of rapidly expanding the commissioned ranks by means of the Officers' Training Corps became apparent.

There were at the beginning of the war 22 senior officers' training corps, and considerably over 100 of the junior division. For want of fully-trained officers they thus afforded the best material then available for forming the new officer cadre.—*Daily Chronicle*.

to a British soldier a neglect of duty, and a casting into oblivion of the name of one who still lives, though his body has gone to earth.

Two years of war have gone, the trenches have taken their toll in lives, we have swept the Hun before us again this summer, and the little graveyards fill and the poppies grow.

Many of our homes are sad; but German homes are sadder, emptied of loved ones and deprived of all means of tracing them. With

reason the German mother's heart is disturbed for in her vivid dreams and imaginings she sees no cross, no lovingly inscribed name, no poppies. All that the heart is the rumble of the inhuman carnal train, creeping back from France like a thief in the night to some great melting pot where all may be hid and charred beyond recognition. The nation that respects her dead and those of her enemies will live, and as the poppies on our soldiers' graves in France rejoice in their own good time, so shall we, and though a vacant chair may be there in the homeland, yet there is a grave in France alive and beautiful with the glow of Victory and the bloom of the poppy; a grave which France's gracious generosity reserves for all time for the sacred purpose to which her Allies have dedicated it.

WHITE RAIDERS IN LIMELIGHT.

German "Ghosts" in no Man's Land.

With the British Armies in the Field, Feb. 4. — The snowfall and frost have made it necessary to adapt the methods of warfare on the Western front to the surrounding whiteness.

The snow makes many things visible which before were invisible. It reveals gun-positions which were very artfully concealed. By the trail of feet to various points in the white landscape it is easy to see the way to a big dugout, to a battalion headquarters in the trenches, and to the roads which the relief must use.

These things do not go unnoticed. There are watchful eyes staring down from ten thousand feet or so above the snow-fields searching out all these clues to the enemy's secrets, and aerial photographers bring back every day these queer-looking landscape pictures, which are read by experts, to whom every black dot or smudge or line conveys important information of use to our gunners and our fighting men.

The German air-men are out on the same work of reading secrets in the snow. With more audacity than they have shown for a long time they are crossing our lines at all hazards, so that there are many fights in the air and our "Archies" have lots of work to do.

I saw this war in the sky yesterday, a pretty far-off fantastic sight, with midges flying about between snowballs which are flung up at them from invisible earthmen. One of our machines was the fastest I have ever seen. It zig-zagged about a slower going battle-plane like forked lightning, its wings agleam and silvery in the cold light.

Like animals in Arctic regions, soldiers are adapting themselves to their environment, and putting on a white mimicry. So when the Germans came across to our lines the day before yesterday from their trenches by Wytschaets (called White-street before the war) they came dressed in white smocks.

It seems to me they might have had a chance of getting close before being seen, if they had not made such a noise before-hand with their guns. It's ridiculous to attempt a surprise attack with white ghosts after a firework display warning all men in its neighbourhood,

That is what happened. A rocket went up bursting into two greenlights, which burned steadily for a few seconds above the utter whiteness of the barren fields where there is never a sign of life unless men leave their trenches. Then the German guns opened a heavy bombardment on a section of our lines, and lifted its barrage 70 yards forward.

At the time of the "lift" there suddenly appeared two parties—each about 40 strong—of men in white smocks. They looked like ghosts all right, coming stealthily over the snowfield. But the warning had been given, and our men were looking for them and saw them quickly.

"It's the Jerry boys" said the sergeant. "Hold your fire, my lads, and then give 'em hell!" Signals went up from our own trenches, seen by the gunner. The artillery was quick with its barrage. A deadly crossfire of machine-guns swept the ground.

The men in white had not the safety of ghosts. Some of them, on the left, fell; others scattered. Two only made a dash for a battered trench, and entered it, beat fled back, leaving behind them a box of dynamite, a rifle, and some hand grenades. According to one man, just taken, over 80 of his company went into hospital sick last week, and the present fighting strength of the company is now only 30. This fellow, who is an intelligent, well-educated man, takes a gloomy view of Germany's position, and states that there is bitter disappointment among the soldiers because of our refusal to discuss peace.

It would be foolish to take one man's word, and though many others also speak gloomily, none however will deny that the Allies have dedicated it.

SCANDINAVIAN PROTEST.

Identical Notes on German Submarine Warfare.

London, February 14.—Renter's Copenhagen correspondent reports that Norway, Sweden, and Denmark have handed to the German Ministers identical notes protesting against the naval measures taken by Germany and Austria-Hungary, and making all reservations regarding the loss of life and the material damage resulting. The following official communication has been issued:

"On Tuesday, the 13th instant, the Danish, Norwegian, and Swedish Governments handed to the German Ministers in their respective capitals notes identical in tenor protesting against the baring of certain seas announced by Germany and Austria. The note begins by recalling the fact that during the war the Governments have several times found themselves obliged to formulate formal protests against serious infringements of the rights of neutrals involved by measures of various belligerent Powers. It then emphasises the fact that the Governments whose actions, on these various occasions were, as always, inspired by the spirit of the most perfect loyalty and impartiality, confined themselves to defending the inexpressible rights of neutrals."

"After pointing out that the Governments have on previous occasions protested against measures of belligerents tending to restrict the free use of the seas by neutrals, the note proceeds to emphasise that the Governments on this occasion are all the more bound to maintain, in taking the same point of view, that the obstacles placed in the way of neutral navigation are now more considerable, in both extent and gravity.

"The note draws attention to the fact that the only rules of international law which might be invoked in support of measures having as their object the prevention of all commerce and all navigation with the enemy are those relating to a naval blockade. That note affirms that no belligerent has the right to prohibit peaceful navigation through zones the limits of which are very distant from enemy coasts which could be blockaded only in legitimate manner. The Governments recall the universally recognised law on naval blockade—namely, that a neutral ship cannot be captured if it is not making any attempt to violate the blockade, and that in the event of a ship being captured it must be brought before a prize court in conformity with the general regulations.

"The Governments declare their anxiety in regard to the measures which have been announced is aggravated further by the fact that the zones declared dangerous will, it appears, be watched exclusively by submarines, whose activity involves great danger for neutrals subjects, as has been shown by experience on various occasions in the course of the war."

"Finally, the note points out that the measures announced will be all the more contrary to the principles of international law if, as the tenor of the communications of the Imperial Government seem to indicate they are to be applied without distinction to all ships entering the zones described, and consequently to those not bound for enemy ports, but on the way from one neutral port to another."

"On the ground of the considerations set forth above, the Governments formally protest against the measures taken by Germany and Austria-Hungary, and make all reservations with regard to the loss of human lives and to material damage which may result from them."

HOTEL LISTS.

HONGKONG HOTEL.

Anderson G E	Jefferson Mr & Mrs
Bardlett R M	J P
Belliles B E	Kay Dr F F
Bischoff F D	Knight Mr & Mrs
Bewick Mr & Mrs	P L
C O	Klein F H
Baxter Mr & Mrs	Kroder Dr A T
Biting S T	Kier C
Barker W L L	Kommers G J
Bartling J H	Leuria Mr & Mrs J J
Bartling Mrs E B	Lauritsen Mr & Mrs
Brockington L	C
Blackinton Mr L A	Longfield S
Bennett Capt & Mrs	Malin O
C	Mariott Dr & Mrs
Belliles Dr R A	Mallie G
Brian Dr	Macdonald Major D
Bridge Mrs E	Mercott J
Bricock E	Macdonald Miss M
Benedict C E	Murray Mr & Mrs
Bever Mr & Mrs	M Y
W F	Macneice J W
Clarke W E	Molmene Mr & Mrs
Cappelman D E	T B E
Cronacher E	Murphy Mr & Mrs
Courtney J D	E B
Courtney G L	Merrill Mrs M B
Cox F W	Miller Miss E F
Crampton J W	Nicolson J S
Chapmanet Mr &	Neab E A
McArdle	Owen Miss A K
Castelberg F E R ds	Owen Miss C
Clark C O	O'Neill W V
Carpenter Mr & Mrs	Pfiffner A F
J K	Prairie Mr & Mrs
Conrad Mr & Mrs	M B ds
C G W	Patten Mr & Mrs
Cookson W S	H J
Clay Mrs J	Plimpton Dr & Mrs
Clever Mrs E	L H
Dowley W A	Pynne Mr & Mrs
Dawson W B	F E
Duffy Miss M E	Pendleton Mr & Mrs
Dove Mr & Mrs	F K
Z	Reed J F Van
Dowar Capt J	Ey E H
Dowdy J	Beay Miss F A
Eustace Mr & Mrs	Hitchcock
Edsell Mr & Mrs	Reid K B
H	Rouse Mr & Mrs A
Edsell Miss	Robinson G J
Evans Mr & Mrs	Robertson Capt R
P W	Robinson Capt J
Fuller Deacon	Henderson Capt H
Feed W H	Stockhouse J W
Fairley V L	Shively Dr J C
Fulmer Miss S J	Square Miss A
Gates J	Sorby Mr & Mrs V
Franks H R	Scott J H
Friend Dr & Mrs	Slade Mrs M
S B	Scott H
Gordon P J	Staber E H
Gordon A G	Stockhouse Miss E V
Goulbourn V	Smith Alex H
Gause Mr & Mrs	Snyder Mrs F H
Taylor	Smith Mrs G L
Grimshaw R	Schmidauer C J M
Hodge L E S	Stevenson Miss J
Hayes Mr & Mrs	Shine W G
H D	Thompson G F
Howard Mr & Mrs	Todd A L
H E	Trumbull Miss
Hodgins Mrs H E	Templer C P
Hind W B	Takachuk K
Harper G	Traver Miss G E
Hodge A Shenton	Turner M B
Hodge J W	Warren E J T
Hannibal Mr & Mrs	Watson Mr H A
W A	Wood G G
Hope L	Ward Miss J G
Houtsma G J	Whittemore S T
Harding G M	Woden Mr & Mrs
Hinch Mr & Mrs	White H
A E	Watkins C E
Henningsen V	Wight Mrs B G
Innes Capt R	Whitaker Mrs
Joseph E M	Wright H

CARLTON HOTEL.

Anderson Mrs W T	Lewis H
Anderson Miss M	Musso O
Boulder E	Meek Thomas
Browne J	Morrison J L
Campbell Miss G	Murrall C
Campbell Miss S	Peeples L
Doe Miss F H	Ramson Rev & Mrs
Dixie Rev & Mrs	A J
Edmonds Mr & Mrs	Shaw Miss F
Gainsborough Miss & Mrs	Sayot C E
Mac U S W	Stephens Mr & Mrs
Graves Mrs J	Thoburn O S
Guthrie Miss M	Thoburn W C
Hassel Miss E V	Thoburn Mr B H G
Hudson Capt & Mrs	Thomas W
James Rev & Mrs	Williamson Mrs A
Kilby Mr & Mrs	Watson Dr & Mrs
Leverett Capt & Mrs	J M
Longe Capt & Mrs	Watkins H
W G	White Miss B M

KINGSCLERE HOTEL.

B

EXTRA

HONGKONG, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1917.

COMPANY MEETING.

Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited.

(VERBATIM)

The ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Company, Limited, was held at the offices of the Company, Queen's Building, to-day at noon. Mr. S. H. D'Arwell presided, and those also present were: Sir Paul Chater, O.M.G., the Hon. Mr. O. E. Anton, Mr. H. P. White, Mr. A. Sorenson, Mr. J. H. Wallace, (Directors); Mr. R. M. Dyer (Chief Manager); Messrs. T. F. Hough, A. O. Lang, W. Danbar, D. E. Clarke, W. L. Patenden, N. V. A. Groncher, H. Percy Smith, D. Macdonald, J. W. Graham, A. R. Lowe, H. Humphreys, R. A. Baxter, S. Michael, G. C. Moore, P. Tester, W. G. Jack, Lo Cheung-abui, and Chau Sui-ki, (shareholders).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, as it is past the time for which the meeting is called, and as there is a quorum present, I will ask the Chief Manager to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chief Manager having read the notice,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen.—The Directors' report and statement of accounts for the year 1916, having been in your hands for the past week I will, with your permission, take them as read. Before dealing with the accounts, I would remind you, though perhaps most shareholders are aware, that 1916 is the fiftieth anniversary of the registration of the Company under its present title, and under the circumstances it seems fit and proper that I should give a brief outline of our operations during that period.

The Company was really started on 1st July, 1863, under a deed of settlement. Mr. Thomas Sutherland, then agent for the E. & O. Company in Hongkong, being appointed Chairman, and Mr. Douglas Lapraik, of the Douglas Steamship Co., Secretary. It took over Cowper's Dock and the Lockson Dock at Whampoa from Mr. J. O. Cowper for the sum of \$40,000, and the stock of those establishments for about \$35,000.

In 1865 it entered into negotiations with Mr. John Lamont, the proprietor of the Lamont Dock at Aberdeen, and the new Hope Dock than under construction, and eventually purchased those two properties.

In view of the recent developments in dry docks, it is interesting to note that the Manager's report for 1865 described the Hope Dock as "being when completed the most capacious and valuable basin of the kind eastward of Suez or the Cape of Good Hope."

The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd., was registered on the 11th October, 1866, under the Companies' Ordinance to take over the affairs of the original company with a share capital of \$750,000, and Mr. Jas. Whitall of Messrs. Jardine Matheson & Co., was the first Chairman.

The Hope Dock was opened in June, 1867, by the then Governor of Hongkong, Sir R. G. Macdonell, and for a number of years was largely used for docking ships of the Royal Navy and other large vessels.

In March, 1870, an amalgamation was made with the Union Dock Co., which possessed the property at Kowloon on which our present No. 2 and 3 docks are situated, and the capital of the company was increased to \$1,000,000.

Mr. David Gillies was appointed Secretary and Manager in November, 1875, and remained in that position till 1901, and was very largely instrumental in successfully piloting the company

through very difficult times to the highly prosperous condition it was in on his retirement.

In January, 1877, the properties at Whampoa, not being found to be remunerative, were sold to the Chinese Government on the condition that no vessel of any other nationality than Chinese should be docked there.

The two patent slips belonging to Captain Sande were purchased in August, 1897, for \$150,000 and were subsequently removed to Kowloon Dock, where they are still doing good work.

In December, 1880, the Cosmopolitan Dock was purchased for \$400,000, and the capital of the Company increased to \$1,250,000.

The acquisition of this property placed the then docking facilities of the port in the hands of the Company.

In April, 1882, owing to the difficulty of finding a dock suitable for deep draught ships, with the assistance of a grant from the Admiralty, the construction of the present No. 1 Dock at Kowloon was started and completed in 1888.

From that date up to 1901, when the capital was increased to \$2,500,000, the affairs of the company were of ever-increasing prosperity. Subsequent events are probably within the memory of all you present, and it does not seem necessary to enlarge upon them.

I would only mention that in 1908 the Naval Dockyard and the Taikoo Dock simultaneously came into existence, thus largely increasing the docking capacity of the Colony and naturally introducing a very strong element of competition. However, since 1913 we have been working in harmony with the Taikoo Dock, and the results, I venture to think, have been to the mutual benefit of both companies.

Turning to the accounts for this year, it gives the Directors great pleasure on the jubilee year to come before you with such a favourable report, and we trust it will meet with your approval.

The volume of repair work carried out has been considerable and the Company has been able to take advantage of the large stock of material it always holds, to carry out this work expeditiously at a time when the question of supplies is a very difficult one.

We have made considerable progress with the new ships which I told you last year we anticipated completing during 1916. Owing, unfortunately, to the great delay in getting delivery of some of the material, our expectations have not been realised, but we look for the completion of six of them during the next six months.

In this connection you will be interested to hear that we have just purchased from the Government an extension of our piece of ground at the point outside No. 1 Dock, and are now getting the land levelled and reclaimed for shipbuilding purposes.

This new shipyard when complete will have four berths 800 feet long, and we hope in time to get it equipped for constructing very large vessels.

You will observe the sum we propose to write off is considerable. It represents 20 per cent. off the book value of our existing plant, the amount spent on improvements at Cosmopolitan Dock, and the balance off plant and buildings.

The amount we propose to put to reserves can be utilised in any way your Directors think fit for the future improvement of the Company; this, in view of the developments I have just mentioned, is very necessary.

As is fitting in a Company like ours, a large number as we can possibly spare of our younger men have gone and are going home to take a more active part in the war, and I deeply regret to say that three of them, Messrs. A. Hirst, E. Groncherbank

and L. O. Collin, have already given their lives for their country. It is a matter of regret to our Directors that they were not able to give permission to all who applied for leave for military service, but those who are left have the satisfaction of knowing that their duties are also of national importance. A good deal of extra work has unavoidably fallen on them, as it is impossible to augment our staff at the present time. I consider that the bonus we ask you to grant them has been well earned, and I have not the slightest doubt but that you are of the same opinion.

Mr. T. F. Hough said:—I rise to second the adoption of the report and accounts. Our chairman's review of the inception of our Company 50 years ago, the various additional requirements and developments during the period lapsed since then, to the stage to which this institution has now grown, bears eloquent testimony to the fact that in the past our directors and management have had always in view the necessity for keeping pace with continually growing requirements of the naval and mercantile shipping belonging to different countries navigating in these waters.

I note, sir, your mention of the late Mr. David Gillies' term of service in the management of the Company's affairs, which gives us pause and causes us to "hark back" considerably. Events have followed each other so rapidly, it seems hardly credible that sixteen years have passed over our heads since Mr. Gillies retired from the Chief Management. There are many still in the Colony who cherish kindly recollections of that courtly old gentleman and will be grateful to you for your appreciative reference to an old friend who served our company so long and faithfully.

It is a great satisfaction to realise how well-equipped our docks are to-day, which is brought home to us by the expectation expressed that during the next six months we may look for the completion of the new steamers now in course of construction, despite the difficulties of procuring material from Home, some of these difficulties in a measure surmounted, but for the most part still acutely in evidence and likely to be for some time to come. It is gratifying to learn of the purchases from the Government of land for the extension of our works, I commend to shareholders the foresight and enterprise which prompted the acquisition, and look forward to the time when the addition to our shipyard area is completed, which will place us in a strong position to combat that keen industrial competition which we would be very short-sighted did we not recognise will always confront us.

As it is generally accepted that no footing in the Colony will again be vouchsafed to the nationality who have by their daringly conduct for ever placed themselves without the pale of commercial relations with us, we must be prepared for stronger opposition growing up outside our shores both to the north and south. We must look for it. The recent awakening of the great country of China to her responsibilities in the cause of civilisation, when they found it inconveniences them to tell the representatives of Germany to begone from their gates, sets us thinking that this great nation will be with us in extending the field of competition, in providing docking facilities, but they will be there themselves, and although the opposition will be—as it should be—friendly, and as such we will welcome it, it will be there all the same, so it behoves us to be far-sighted in making our plans for the future.

It is with much pleasure I note in the accounts provision for a bonus to the staff. The result of

ENGINEER SENTENCED.

Three Months' Hard Labour for Theft.

George Anderson, the third engineer of the s.s. *Hupah*, who brought before Mr. J. R. Wood, at the Police Court this morning, on the charge of stealing a sum of money belonging to the *Taliboo*, the second engineer of the ship.

Evidence was given by Crown Sergeants Sutton and Laugier to the effect that the defendant stated that after having \$70 stolen he had not a cent left, and he expected that he would have to sign a chit.

The defendant, in the box, denied that he went into the cabin of the second engineer on the morning in question. He went to the cabin for a box containing some tools, but as he could reach that from the door he did not go inside. The boy was in the cabin when he went there. He admitted that he borrowed a box from one of the crew, but that he used to turn a winch, as it was part of his duty to see to the windows when the ship was in port. When the theft of the money was reported to the chief engineer, he sent for the boy, who said he saw him (defendant) come to the cabin for a pair of pliers, but he had seen no one else. He discovered the loss of his money shortly after the second engineer's box had been found out. After this \$70 had been taken, he had about \$10 left, but this did not include a number of Singapore dollars, some Chinese money and some ticals. He changed the Singapore dollars at a place somewhere between the Jinglong Hotel and West Point, but he could not find the ship. He obtained these dollars by changing some sovereigns at Singapore, and the second engineer knew that he did so.

In sentencing the defendant to three months' hard labour, Mr. Wood told him that he had no doubt that he took the money and that his story about changing the Singapore dollars was untrue.

New American Firm for Shanghai.

Another new American firm is to open in Shanghai, according to Japanese papers, which report the presence in Japan while on his way to Shanghai of Mr. Harry Nataf, representing Meers, Arkell and Douglas of New York, who are to open an office in Shanghai as headquarters for the Far East.

Soldier of Eighty on Active Duty.

"As sound as a bell," was the doctors' verdict in passing the oldest British soldier on active duty. Private Charles Farmer, aged eighty, of the King's Shropshire Light Infantry. He is one of the guard at the prisoners' camp, Douglas, Isle of Man. Farmer is a Crimean veteran, and was discharged from the Army in 1871.

favour? Those against? Carried unanimously. The next business is the re-election of auditors.

Mr. Tester:—I beg to propose that Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe be re-elected as auditors for the current year at a fee of \$1,000 each.

Mr. Lo Cheung-abui:—Mr. Chairman, I beg to second the re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe as auditors of the Company.

The Chairman:—The re-election of Mr. H. Percy Smith and Mr. A. R. Lowe as auditors for the ensuing year, at a fee of \$1,000 each, has been proposed by Mr. Tester, and seconded by Mr. Lo Cheung-abui. Those in favour? Those against? Carried unanimously.

That is all the business gentlemen; thank you. Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow and may be had on application at the office.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE MEETING.

OUTSPOKEN UTTERANCES AGAINST RETURN OF GERMANS TO HONGKONG.

HON. MR. HOLYOAK'S PROTEST CONCERNING THE OFFICIAL VETO.

The annual general meeting of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce was held yesterday afternoon in the Chamber Room, New Government Building, when Mr G. T. Edkins (Messrs. Butterfield and Swire) presided over a good attendance. Those also present were:—Rees and Co. (Hon. Mr P. H. Holyoak), Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (Mr N. J. Stabb), Jardine, Matheson and Co. (Hon. Mr C. E. Anton), Gibb, Livingstone and Co. (Mr A. O. Lang), Alex. Ross and Co. (Mr A. S. D. Cowland), Union Insurance Co., Ltd. (Mr E. Montague Edge), P. and O. Co. (Mr E. V. D. Parr), Donnelly and Whyte (Mr L. M. Whyte), Cawasjee Pallanjee and Co. (Mr R. B. Cooper), Arculli Bros. (Mr G. E. Arculli), W. G. Humphreys and Co. (Mr W. M. Humphreys), Hughes and Hough (Mr T. F. Hough), F. P. Talati (Mr M. P. Talati), W. A. Hannibal and Co. (Mr W. A. Hannibal), Liverpool, London and Globe Insurance Co., Ltd (Mr J. de B. Lancaster), J. M. Alves and Co. (Mr J. M. Alves), John D. Humphreys and Son (Mr H. Humphreys), B. A. T. (Mr Harvey), New Zealand Insurance Co., Ltd. (Mr J. W. Stockhouse), Messageries Maritimes (Mr A. Thomas), W. C. Jack & Co. (Mr W. C. Jack), Netherlands Indu-Commercial Bank (Mr G. A. Dunlop), Commercial Union Assurance Co. (Mr E. L. Arnold), Gilman & Co. (Mr W. L. Patten), Yuen H p Hing (S. H. Leung), Robertson, Wilson & Co. (Mr G. H. Wilson), The China Mutual Life Insurance Co. (Mr B. W. Tape), Nestle's and Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co. (Mr L. G. Coppis), Bank Line, Ltd. (Mr T. M. Longfellow), W. R. Looley & Co. (Mr A. Beattie), Stewart Bros. (Mr E. Ormitton), R. Hancock, A. G. Gordon, H. Stephens & Co. (Mr H. Sten-then), Gande Price and Co. (Mr C. Bond), Swedish Trading Co. (Mr G. Ludin), Union Trading Co. (Mr S. M. Chera), Chartered Bank (Mr T. O. Downing), Bank of Indo-China (Mr L. Berindoague), Bradley & Co. (Mr J. S. Plummer), Eastern Asbestos Co. (Mr F. C. Butcher), Asiatic Petroleum Co. (Messrs N. L. Watson and W. D. Bell), Harry Wicking & Co. (Mr A. Forbes), Hongkong Electric Co. (Mr G. M. Lakia), S. C. I. I-mail & Co. (Mr S. E. Ismail), China Borneo Co., Ltd. (Mr H. W. B. Kennett), with Mr E. A. M. Williams (Secretary).

The Secretary having read the notice convening the meeting,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen: The report and accounts of the Chamber for the year 1916 have been in your hands for some days and with your permission therefore, we will take them as read. Before formally moving their adoption, I will review some of the outstanding matters which have occupied the Committee during the past year. While your Committees have had the usual numerous and widely varied subjects to deal with, their attention has been naturally claimed by many questions directly and indirectly connected with the war, and although the Committee have been enabled to liberally place before the members the bulk of these subject matter, much of it exclusively British, certain parts are under censorship for the present, hence the particular excisions which you will have noticed in the Report.

Thanks to the ready financial response from members the Committee have been enabled to bring into effect the scholarships instituted as a memorial in remembrance of our respected late Chairman, Mr Hewitt, and three scholars from Queen's College are now benefiting therefrom at the University where we hope they will have a successful career. (Applause.)

During the year the development of measures against enemy trade, as well as the levy of duties for purposes of revenue, led to extension by Government of export and import permit procedure, and in this connection, I would acknowledge the help accorded by Mr. Blundell, the Superin-

encouraging new industries and expanding existing industries in the British Empire, and accordingly your Committee intimated their support, and suggested to the Government that British merchants in this Colony should be given an opportunity to tender for those Government requirements which ordinarily go past the Colony to the Crown Agents at Home. Such course would seem to contribute to the encouragement of British industries locally, and in any case might in other ways well prove worth a trial.

A plea for reduction of ocean freight rebates on European freights claimed a good deal of attention from the Committee of Chambers in China, and in Hongkong—the enhanced rates of freight and time occupied in payment of rebate claims being largely responsible for the raising of the question. Strongly divergent views were held by merchants, and the matter was ultimately dropped owing to divided opinions. Amelioration of the position has since been provided by shipowners arranging to pay 90% of rebate claims immediately at the close of the first period.

A threatened restriction in the supplies of food commodities, notably butter, from Australia to Hongkong and Shanghai led the Committee to take up the question with the Government and with Mr. J. B. Sutor, the Commercial Commissioner for New South Wales, with effective results. The importance of maintaining ready supplies of food products from Australia is obvious in these times, and I take this opportunity to acknowledge the valuable assistance Mr. Sutor always places at the disposal of the Chamber in matters connected with the great Southern Colony.

Notwithstanding restricted shipping facilities with high prices and high forwarding charges the enterprise of merchants and traders has kept the Colony well supplied with staple foods, and it is satisfactory to know that Flour and other food necessities continue in substantial supply in Hongkong: a tribute moreover to the work of the British and Allied Navies.

The Committee had pleasure in subscribing on your behalf to the London organisation for distribution of newspapers and periodicals to the men of H. M. Grand Fleet, whose splendid work guards us here in comparative peace and keeps the Seas near home free to receive and to respond to suggestions for co-operation with newly formed British Chambers of Commerce in fields so far apart as China and Italy. I am sure the members heartily respond to good fellowship extended by the Chambers at Canton, Shanghai, Tianjin and Italy, as also to the proposals of co-operation in various Imperial measures from Chambers of Commerce and other Associations in Australia and elsewhere.

The matter of enemy submarine outrages stirs us to righteous anger. Full reparation can never be attained for the personal suffering the subjects of Allied and neutral countries have undergone from the piratical actions of enemy submarines, but we can at least see that no effort on our part is spared to ensure that material compensation is secured from tonnage in the enemy's possession, and that he shall not profit through his malign and unscrupulous policy by permitted retention of his vessels at present sheltering in his home and neutral ports. Hence with every attention during the year, and the policy favoured by the Committee was forcibly represented in the Legislative Council by Mr. Holyoak. The main aim is that such measures shall be taken as shall irretrievably prevent the revival and use of enemy trade marks at least on British goods after the war, and that the propensity of an enemy who implacably and unscrupulously conducts a policy of destruction of life and property of Allies and neutrals alike on the High Seas, shall not have his property and trading spirit thereof, adopted at the Allies' Conference at Paris detailed in the Report. Mr Bonar Law in the opening phrases of his letter drawing the Colony's attention to the recommendations of that Conference, turns our thoughts forthwith to measures to be taken to avoid any recurrence of the dangers to which the Empire has been exposed by the growth of German trade and influence within it. Danger in this respect will naturally lie in the return of enemy subjects to our midst, and I know of no other question in the problems of the future which excites higher feeling, and the strongest possible views among your Committee. It is surely not too much to hope and to expect that the privilege of return to this Colony should be withheld from the enemy for a substantial period after the declaration of peace. The events of the last year have only served to strengthen rather than mitigate the views on this point expressed by Mr Landale, the Chairman at last year's meeting. During the past few weeks, stirring events have developed which will figure in future history, and they mark decided stages in the progress of the Allied Powers towards victory.

In response to the request made at the last Annual Meeting, a Chinese Language School has been successfully instituted with Dr. Pearce as the Director in charge. Considering that the school was started in the stress of war time when business staffs are depleted and men's time subject also to the claims of military duties, Dr. Pearce and the 30 to 40 students to be congratulated on the progress of the school. The first class started with Cantonese on the 2nd November last, and Dr. Pearce is already able to report steady pro-

gress on the part of the students towards proficiency in the vernacular. Quarterly tests have been instituted for the benefit of all concerned, but it is hoped that these tests where they do not show high records of marks will not discourage beginners. The times and circumstances are against rapid acquisition of a difficult oriental language and literature, difficult enough in themselves under the most favourable conditions, and the Committee hope that every encouragement will be given to students to continue their studies even when progress is not so rapid as expected at the outset.

The Committee wished to institute classes for Mandarin as well as Cantonese but this has not yet proved practicable. Mandarin holds such a pre-ponderating place in the dialects of China for converse with official Chinese, and the peoples of the great and thickly populated areas of Central and Northern China, vast fields for commercial and engineering enterprise, that it is to be hoped it may soon secure a place in the curriculum of our Language school. I desire to acknowledge the assistance Sir Charles Elliot has rendered the Committee in the development of the school, and our appreciation is due to Dr. Pearce for the wholehearted manner in which he devotes his energies for the well-being of this new branch of the Chamber's work. 'Beginners' classes are starting again in April which it is hoped will be well attended.

As you will have seen, the report largely deals with trade policy as applied to the present war period and to the post-bellum future. Our letters of 21st March of last year to Mr Ross and of January 8th of this year to the Colonial Secretary indicate the

policy the Committee have adopted, as indicated in the report, and the Chamber is indebted to the members of these Sub-Committees for the time and attention they have given to much valuable work. The accounts do not call for any elaboration. The balance is on the right side and the figures speak for themselves. I beg therefore to propose the adoption of the report and accounts. (Applause.)

Mr. W. M. Humphreys seconded the adoption of the report and accounts which were adopted without discussion.

The Chairman said that the members would doubtless like to hear a few words from Mr. Holyoak, who was their representative on the Legislative Council.

Mr. Holyoak's Speech.

Mr. Holyoak first of all said that he would like to explain a little of the machinery necessary to get a question answered in the Council so that all would realise the time it took to get an answer. Due notice must be given and one might very well get an answer such as "The answer is in the negative," which meant that a further notice of a fortnight had to be given, and possibly the Council did not meet again for a month. It sometimes happened that a question was indefinitely hung up in that way. He thought some measure of constitutional reform should be possible so that a question affecting real business interests might be answered by a responsible official of the Council on broad lines, who, if necessary, should give an amplified reply at the following Council meeting.

He would like to testify to the fact that a large amount of private work was done by their representative which could not possibly be fully dealt with or explained in public and he would like to give his testimony to the ready assistance he had received on almost every occasion from every single official of the Council, including the Governor himself, on questions which affected trade interests. (Applause.)

The principal questions which had been dealt with were the removal of the alien prisoners of war to a safer place than within the confines of this Colony, the trade mark question, which was a very vital one, the silk prohibition question, which was due, apparently, to a rather careless blunder by an officer in London, and which necessarily involved the trade in very considerable loss, and lastly the question of war taxation, which was not yet fully dealt with.

As regards the enemy trade mark question it was now being dealt with before the Council in a Bill which was shortly to have its second reading. That Bill went some way towards granting what they were asking for, but it did not go far enough. It provided that all trade marks and the good-will attaching to them, should for the present remain in the hands of the Enemy Custodian. It did not provide that such trade marks should never be returned to the enemy, if for some unknown reason he was ever allowed within the Colony's gates again.

We may with every confidence regard the present Anglo-French advance as a decisive progress towards the centre of Belgium. In Russia the Revolution has set up a democratic Provisional Government with the declared intention of more vigorous prosecution of the war, while China like the United States has now severed diplomatic relations with Germany. There is also the capture of Bagdad with all its consequent possibilities. This rapid series of events favourable to the Allies inspires confidence in the nearer approach of victorious peace, for the welfare of mankind and with the promise of opportunities for the further prosperous development of the Colony. We are happy to see China taking part with the United States in the cause of international justice and humanity, and it is opportune to express here our good wishes to the great nation of Russia in the development of the ideals her people have now before them.

The achievement of great things has its price, and while we are all proud of the men who have gone forth to fight the country's battle, and of the extreme sacrifice some are called upon to render, a great loss falls to us, and it is fitting that we should record our sympathy with the firms who have lost members of their staffs, stricken on the field of battle in the great cause during the past months.

In closing I would mention that during the year Sub-Committees have been extended, as indicated in the report, and the Chamber is indebted to the members of these Sub-Committees for the time and attention they have given to much valuable work. The accounts do not call for any elaboration. The balance is on the right side and the figures speak for themselves. I beg therefore to propose the adoption of the report and accounts. (Applause.)

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HOLY WEEK.

Forthcoming Services at Catholic Cathedral.

The following is the list of services authorised by His Lordship Bishop Ponson, at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, from Palm Sunday (April 1) to Easter Day.

Palm Sunday.—Low Masses at 6, 7 and 9.30 a.m.—Blessing and distribution of palms at 7.30 a.m. followed by Procession of Palms. During the High Mass the Passion Gospel will be sung by three priests. In the evening Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Monday and Tuesday.—Low Masses at 6 and 7.30 a.m.

Wednesday:—Morning services as on previous days. Office of Tenebrae at 5 p.m. Benedic-tus sung by the clergy and Masses by the full choir. General Confession.

Maudy Thursday:—General Confession from 6 to 8 a.m. High Pontifical Mass will be celebrated at 8 a.m. by the Bishop, during which the blessing of the Holy Oil will take place, followed by the Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament and the anointing of the Altar. The ceremony of the Washing of the Feet will be performed by the Bishop at 11 o'clock. In the evening Tenebrae and public Adoration of the enthroned Blessed Sacrament up to 11.30 p.m.

Good Friday:—Offices in the morning at 8 o'clock. Adoration of the Wood of the Cross; Missa Presanctificate.

In the evening Tenebrae, followed by the devotion of the Way of the Cross. Each Station is preached from the pulpit by the Rev. the Rector of the Cathedral, and concludes with the Stabat Mater.

Holy Saturday:—Blessing of the New Fire and the Paschal Candle, followed by the reading of the Twelve Prophecies and the Blessing of the Font. Litany of the Saints and High Mass. At the Gloria in Excelsis the bells will be rung and flowers distributed among the congregation.

Easter Sunday:—High Pontifical Mass at 8 a.m. when the Papal Blessing will be imparted by the Bishop. In the evening Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

This was seconded by Mr. Gordon, and unanimously agreed to.

The confirmation of the following new members was agreed to on the proposition of the Chairman, seconded by Mr. Dodwell:—China Mutual Life Insurance Co., Ltd. Dairy Farm Co., Ltd. Liverpool and London and Globe Insurance Co. Ltd. B. Monteith and Webb and Co., Patel and Co., Fung Tang, C. E. Warren, and J. Scott Harston.

Extraordinary Meeting. An extraordinary meeting of the Chamber followed for the purpose of considering the following resolution:—"That Clause 8 of the Rules and Regulations of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce should be amended by the insertion of the word 'British' between the word 'ten' and the word 'members' in the first line thereof."

The Chairman said:—The Committee has been approached from various sides on the standing of the Chamber as a British Association. Obviously, established as we are in a British Colony with a preponderance of British members, our practical status is that of a British Chamber, and I would ask those members owing allegiance to other than the British flag bat whom we are glad to have with us to make due allowance for that point. The proposal which is put before you appeals to the outgoing Committee as an opportune measure and they support its introduction. If the resolution is carried it will be a matter for consideration for the incoming Committee to decide whether further steps are desirable to take to meet the new circumstances arising out of the War, in relations between the Chamber, the British Government and other Chambers of Commerce. With these remarks I would recommend a favourable hearing to the resolution to be put before you.

Mr. Watson seconded and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

New Chairman. At a subsequent Committee meeting, the Hon. Mr. P. H. Holyoak was appointed to succeed Mr. G. T. Edkins as Chairman of the Chamber, and Mr. C. E. Dodwell was appointed Vice-Chairman.

The above resolution was then proposed by Mr. Coggin, who

said that for many years their Committee had consisted of British members only, and the amended regulation would ensure such being the case in future. It would also have the good effect of assisting other British Chambers to send their Committee some confidential communications which hitherto they had considered inadmissible.

By the amending of the regulation that difference would be unnecessary on that account.

Mr. Watson seconded and the resolution was unanimously agreed to.

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FROM THE PULPIT.

The Oracle of Edom.

Notes of a sermon by the Rev. Kirk Macomachis at Union Church on Sunday morning:

"The Burden of Damach. One wileth unto me out of Seir: Watchman, what of the night? Watchman, what of the night? The watchmen said: The morning cometh, and also the night; if ye will inquire, ye inquire, and come again."—Isaiah 21/11.

"This obscure oracle occurs in a series of prophecies concerning the nations of Western Asia in a very disturbed condition of the world. Jerusalem was a centre of intrigue against the rising and treacherous power of Assyria, and appeal seems to have been made to Isaiah for counsel from all quarters. The earlier portion of the chapter contains the announcement of the fall of mighty Babylon before the conqueror, and now the prophet watchman bears this anxious enquiry from Sair across the Ithmean desert: 'Watchman, what of the night?' As yet, however, he can give no clear answer. There is hope; there is also apprehension. 'The morning cometh, and also the night.' Later, perhaps, the issue may become more plain, if still they care to know: 'If ye will inquire, inquire ye; turn ye, come back again.'

"Watchman, what of the night?" we have come to say proverbially in any circumstances of critical yet uncertain import, when the outlook is far from clear, and the next phase may be, as it were, either night or morning or alternations of the two. Eager inquiry and uncertain answer—how far the world has been of them during these years of war, when 'sorceries unexampled have pressed on people and statesmen and none could tell who next would be drawn within the whirlpool. There have been prophecies in abundance, but truth, when at any time we have heard it, has really been limited to the oracular—"The morning cometh and also the night," and we have had to ask again. We are now at length approaching what must surely be the final phase of the tremendous struggle, though still there may be far to go. We have had good news from several critical quarters as to the progress of the fight, and now come the startling and revolutionary events in Russia, we trust of good import in its bearing on the war, and certainly of extreme significance in the general history of Europe. Russia has always been to Western peoples a land of mystery, remaining in the Middle Ages, and with more than a dash of orientalism to remove her still further from community of ideals with the countries allied with her in this war which has obliterated so many dividing lines. When the war broke out, it seemed strange to the point of unnaturalness that France and Britain, where full government arose and now has its stronghold, should be making common cause against Germany—assumed to be a centre of all enlightenment—along with Russia, which had been traditionally regarded as the home of all reaction, the back-drag on civilization. Also during these months of war the uncertain element has always been Russia, cut off from free communication with her western Allies, a vast mass of ill-organized power and ill-developed resources. After the first folly of the "steam roller" expectations, the question had always lain in the background whether the eastern ally could continue to hold her own against the thoroughly prepared enemy on her borders, furnished with all the resources of modern industrialism and science. What endurance and courage could do the Russian soldier was known to be capable of, but the bravest armies ill-prepared and outraged are like sheep for the slaughter in modern man, and these disadvantages brought sore and discouraging reverses upon the hosts of the Tsar. Worst of all there grew up minister apprehensions that all was not well at the source of authority, and that powerful influences were at work against a vigorous prosecution of

the war. The Russian people seem to have reached a conviction that a crisis had been reached in their struggle for internal liberty no less than against the foreign foe, and that their own tyrannical bureaucracy would really stand or fall with the military power of the Central Empires, toward which it naturally leaned for self-preservation.

So the revolution, long simmering, has at length accomplished itself under the stress of a terrible war, defeat in which, would again have sold the Russian people back into subjection. The world has now one abomination less upon its too long suffering shoulders and one more great race of its inhabitants has essayed the task of governing itself. The house of the Romanoffs has fallen, apparently beyond hope of restoration, and its fall is assuredly a notable landmark in the history of freedom in this world.

The fall of a great dynasty is always a pathetic spectacle, and in this case Mr. Boast Law spoke for us all in speaking of the late Tsar as deserving the compassion due to a man born to responsibilities which were too much for him. I cannot divest my mind of a sense of tragedy, not simply for the fall of an exalted personage from his pinnacle of power, but for the failure to achieve the ideals with which, as a young man, he appeared to enter on his career.

I have been looking up a sermon I preached 19 years ago. The text was from the prophet Joel: "Your young men shall see vision." That was just after the young Tsar had issued his memorable manifesto in favour of international peace, with a sincerity which not even the Continental Press at the time disputed. In dignified and searching words, that prophet set forth the follies and evils of the existing system of capping armaments and urged a conference with a view to stopping the mad and mischievous rivalry, so that the nations of the earth might give themselves to the pursuit of peaceful industry and progress, free from the spectre of devastating war; too glibly to contemplate. One leading journal at the time described the effort as the natural and pardonable hallucination of a young man, published in a rash moment to the world. Well, we are all nearly twenty years older since that time. The vision has receded and the devastating war has broken out. Perhaps its outbreak has caused misgivings among some of the worldly wise as to whether it would not have been wiser—not to mention better—to have worked for the young man's dream than to have derided it. After all, it is too often the old men who make wars while the young men have to fight them, but as for the war of to-day history will acquit Nicholas Romanoff of much responsibility, whether else he may be chargeable with. It was always Germany, the aggressor in this war, which opposed the reduction of armaments when peace conferences were summoned, and which set the pace and led the way in the cruel competition which results we see now. Tear Nicholas had his youthful dream, and when all he said it is better to have dreamed and failed than never to have dreamed at all. The visions of one generation not seldom become the realities of the next, and if all the young men who are venturing their lives in the present war retain the hatred of war which they acquire in the presence of it, we may soon have a generation which has made up its mind that the vision is to be worked out in life, that the thing deemed as impossible is the thing that must and shall be done, and that other means than bloodshed shall be devised for the arrangement of national disputes, as has long been done individually.

But the old bad way of the world was too much for Nicholas Romanoff as it would have been for any man with William Hohenzollern for a neighbour, and there never will be peace in this world until all the arbitrary dynastic and all the feudalisms and false ideals which are bound up with them are done away with, and the peoples of the earth are left to deal with the shadows of our time.

What endurance and courage could do the Russian soldier was known to be capable of, but the bravest armies ill-prepared and outraged are like sheep for the slaughter in modern man, and these disadvantages brought sore and discouraging reverses upon the hosts of the Tsar. Worst of all there grew up minister apprehensions that all was not well at the source of authority, and that powerful influences were at work against a vigorous prosecution of

A NEW-ZEALAND MEAT SCANDAL.

How the Middleman Fleeces Producer and Purchaser.

New Zealand is angry, for it has a grievance—one that is, to all appearances, genuine and serious. Their Government commanded the entire supply of the Dominion's meat, to be handed over to our—the Imperial—Government, ostensibly for the purpose of feeding the Army and Navy. Any surplus, it was understood, would be placed on the British markets at a low rate, for the benefit of the people. That step did not provoke one murmur; the sheep farmers were proud to help, although the price paid them for lamb was somewhat below the market value—the average they received was 5d. per pound.

That sum had to bear the cost of killing, freezing, storage, insurance, and other charges, including delivery free-on-board the home-bound boat. The net return was, therefore, less than 4d. per pound. Their anger arose when they discovered that New Zealand lamb was sold in London at 1s. 2d. per lb., a price that has since been considerably increased. The difference between the two figures clearly shows that middlemen actually pocket more profit from the meat than is secured by the producers. That is bad enough, but these other pin-pricks. Frozen meat from the Argentine has been bought by the Government in enormous quantities but the Argentine is not restricted in any way as regards surplus meat; they have been able to put that on the market at their own figure, and have profited accordingly.

Further, New Zealand fears that our soldiers are not supplied with its lamb, but that it is handed over to the wholesalers, who reap the entire benefit of the inflated prices. In plain words, the meat Trust has been able, thanks to the bungling of Mr. Bonapart and the Board of Trade, to impose upon the patriotism of the New Zealand producers, and to pile up fortunes at the expense of our brothers in the Dominion. We do not wonder at their anger, and their deep sense of injury.—John Bell.

one another in the light of day, with reason and goodwill toward the common interest. The people are coming to their own in mighty Russia, and if there is a Daniel in all Germany he cannot fail to see the writing on the wall there also. Our world seems at last to have had about all it will ever want of hereditary domination and dynastic intrigues, with all their out-of-date but fearfully dangerous apparatus of underhand diplomacy and secret treachery-making which has set the millions of mankind fighting, often for what they know not, since history began.

Let us, who belong to a great and free democracy, extend every sympathy to the Russian people in this crisis of their destiny, and the devastating war has broken out. Perhaps its outbreak has caused misgivings among some of the worldly wise as to whether it would not have been wiser—not to mention better—to have worked for the young man's dream than to have derided it. After all, it is too often the old men who make wars while the young men have to fight them, but as for the war of to-day history will acquit Nicholas Romanoff of much responsibility, whether else he may be chargeable with. It was always Germany, the aggressor in this war, which opposed the reduction of armaments when peace conferences were summoned, and which set the pace and led the way in the cruel competition which results we see now. Tear Nicholas had his youthful dream, and when all he said it is better to have dreamed and failed than never to have dreamed at all. The visions of one generation not seldom become the realities of the next, and if all the young men who are venturing their lives in the present war retain the hatred of war which they acquire in the presence of it, we may soon have a generation which has made up its mind that the vision is to be worked out in life, that the thing deemed as impossible is the thing that must and shall be done, and that other means than bloodshed shall be devised for the arrangement of national disputes, as has long been done individually.

But the old bad way of the world was too much for Nicholas Romanoff as it would have been for any man with William Hohenzollern for a neighbour, and there never will be peace in this world until all the arbitrary dynastic and all the feudalisms and false ideals which are bound up with them are done away with, and the peoples of the earth are left to deal with the shadows of our time.

THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, TUESDAY, MARCH 27, 1917.

HONGKONG SHARE REPORT.

A—SELLERS; SA—SALES;
B—BUYERS; N—NOMINAL

OFFICIAL PRICES.

BANKS.

Banks b. & ss. 3690

MARINE INSURANCES.

Cantons n. \$370

North Chinas n. t. 180

Unions b. & ss. \$890

Yangtze n. or 73 \$235

FIRE INSURANCES.

China Fires b. \$155

H. K. Fires b. \$352

SHIPPING.

Douglasas s. \$100

Steamboats s. \$1814

Indos (Def.) s. \$126

Indos (Pref.) n. \$414

Shells n. 105/-

Ferries n. \$33

REFINERIES.

Sugars b. \$125

Malabon b. \$29

MINING.

Kalians n. 36/-

Langkats n. t. 18

Rauks n. sa. \$235

Tronoks s. 30/-

Urais n. 28/-

DOCKS, WHARVES,
GODDOWNS, &c.

H. K. Wharves s. \$51

Kowloon Docks b. \$127

Shai Docks n. t. 87

LANDS, HOTELS
AND BUILDINGS.

Centrals b. \$93

H. K. Hotels b. \$102

Land Invest. b. \$94

H'phrys-Est. b. \$6.30

Kloon Lands n. \$38

Shai Lands n. t. 80

West Points b. \$70

COTTON MILLS.

Ewos n. t. 14714

Kung Yiks n. t. 13

Shai Cottons n. t. 137

Yangtszeopos s. t. 5

MISCELLANEOUS.

Borneos b. \$8

China Light & P. ss. & b. \$4.75

Providents s. \$6.10

Dairy Farms b. \$23

Green Islands ss. \$8.80

H. K. Electrics b. \$484

H. K. Ice Co. b. \$160

Ropes b. \$29

Steel Foundries b. \$10

Trams, Low Level b. & ss. \$7.10

Trams, Peak, old n. \$1.80

Trams, Peak, new n. \$1

Laundries n. \$32

U. Waterboats n. \$161

Watsons ss. \$7 & 61

Wm. Powells n. \$6

Morning Posts n. \$29

NOTICE.

BANKS.

BANK OF CANTON,
LIMITED.

BANKS

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI
BANKING CORPORATION.

Paid-up Capital \$15,000,000

RESERVE FUNDS:

Sterling £1,500,000 at 2%

— \$15,000,000

Silver \$18,500,000

\$35,500,000

Reserve Liability of Proprietors \$15,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

S. H. Dodwell, Esq., Chairman.

J. A. Flanagan, Esq., Deputy Chairman.

H. G. Gaskins, Esq., New York.

G. Gaskins, Esq., New York.

E. V. D. Parry, Esq., W. L. Paterson, Esq.,

Chairman.

GENERAL MANAGER:

Shanghai—A. G. Stables, Esq.

London—J. C. Alexander, Esq.

Montevideo—L. J. Shillito, Esq.

Hongkong—C. J. Stables, Esq.

Wilmington, Mass.—C. J. Stables, Esq.

Nottingham, Lancs.—C. J. Stables, Esq.

Hongkong—Interest Allowed on Current Accounts at the rate of 1 per cent.

ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 2 months, 2½ per cent. per annum.

For 6 months, 3 per cent. per annum.

For 12 Months 4½ per cent. per annum.

LOOK POON SHAN;

Chief Manager.

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG

NOTES.

NOTICE.

PEAK TRAMWAY CO.
LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.

